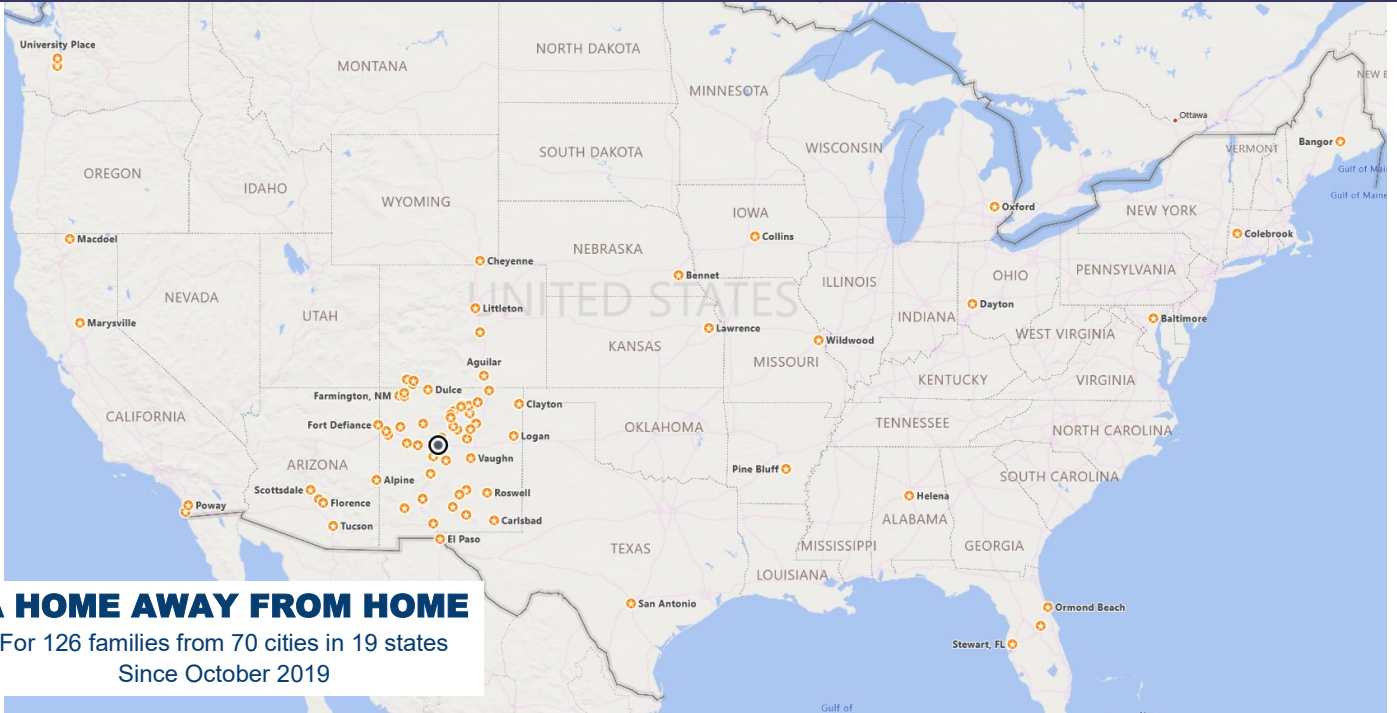




# ALBUQUERQUE FISHER HOUSE

*Because A Family's Love is Good Medicine*  
Est. October 2019



## A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

For 126 families from 70 cities in 19 states  
Since October 2019

### January 2021 Message from the Manager

The new year was kicked off with the roll out of COVID-19 vaccinations. Our Fisher House staff is part of the nearly 80 percent of NMVA staff who have received the vaccine. The line of cars snaked around the NMVA campus makes evident how our Veterans are doing their part too. In just a few weeks, the NMVA has achieved the remarkable feat of vaccinating over 4,400 of our Veterans and on a national level the VA has administered one million doses to Veterans across the country! I watch the clinical and logistical staff hustling to organize this roll out and am honored to work alongside professionals so dedicated to serve those who have served.

Here at the Fisher House, the silver lining to our lower occupancy is that I can ensure safe physical distancing. And thanks to our donors, I can ensure that families find a well-stocked kitchen.



Having a healthy meal or snack in the kitchen means our families do not have to venture out and can stay safe in the house. Recently, I had a family who had driven four hours to get to the hospital and was overwhelmed with their Veteran's medical crisis. But they were so relieved to find a big helping of



*Left to right: Don Kever, PSA; Vicki Ogilvie, Asst. Manager; and Christina Ramirez, Manager proudly wear their "I got the shot" facemasks.*

spaghetti ready for their dinner. I even had a vegetarian stay here who couldn't believe we had vegetarian lasagna and veggie tamales in the freezer. Our generous supporters have made all this possible.

Thank you for all you do to care for our Veterans, their families, and one another.

Yours in service,  
*Christina Ramirez*



## WISH LIST

Please feel free to call the Fisher House at 505-265-1711 x3180 to ask what we need this month.

*Gift cards are especially helpful now that our occupancy is limited. They allow for immediate stocking of refrigerated items and meals. \$25 gift cards will be distributed directly to a family so they can purchase a meal.*

- \$100-500 Visa / Amazon Gift Cards
- \$25 Restaurant / Food Delivery / Grocery / Visa Gift Cards

### INDIVIDUALLY PORTIONED FOOD AND DRINK

**Frozen Entrees** (i.e. Lean Cuisine)

Protein Shakes

V-8 Juice Cans (Flavored / Regular)

Juice Bottles (Apple, Orange, Cranberry)

Healthy Snacks (on the go)

### AMAZON SMILE WISH LIST

Use Amazon Smile and designate 0.5% of your purchase to go to the **Friends of New Mexico Fisher House**  
[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/28F9P22NXJZDY?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/28F9P22NXJZDY?ref=wl_share)

- The Wish List will give you an idea of what we can use. Feel free to shop for these items elsewhere if you like.
- Please be sure to send us an email letting us know you're sending an item from the Amazon Wish List.

### WELCOME BAGS FOR GUESTS

Pampering / Relaxation Items

Travel size mouth wash

**ALL DONATIONS  
MUST BE NEW, UNUSED**

### FISHER HOUSE GUESTS

**JAN 2021**

**5 Families, 5 Guests**

**Fiscal Year 21**

**21 Families, 21 Guests**

**Since Opening Our Doors**

**126 Families**

**173 Guests**

### LODGING COSTS

**SAVED BY FAMILIES**

**JAN 2021**

**\$2,304**

**Fiscal Year 21**

**\$6,240**

**Since Opening Our Doors**

**\$95,136**

**G**enerous donations from **10** groups and individuals supported our Albuquerque Fisher House mission this month with items valued at over **\$1,920**. Monetary donations such as checks go to the Fisher House's VA General Post Fund and gift cards are used to purchase groceries or given directly to our families. In-kind donations such as care packages or items from our Wish List keep families comforted during their stay here.

- American Legion Riders (Pantry Items)
- Friends of New Mexico Fisher House (Gift Card, Groceries)
- Monte Smithson (Pantry Items)
- Dr. Katrina Hansen-Schmitt (Farm Fresh Eggs)
- ZIA Federated Republican Woman (Monetary Donation)
- Jo Ann Hudson (Monetary Donation)
- New Mexico Air National Guard Officer Candidate School (Pantry Items)
- Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta (Gifts for Guests)
- Winnie Thompson (Gifts for Guests)



### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FISHER HOUSE FAMILIES

- ✓ Live 50 miles from the NMVAMC
- ✓ Family member/caregiver of an inpatient Veteran/Service member
- ✓ Actively engaged and needed for bedside support
- ✓ Medically stable, not under a doctor's care
- ✓ Independent and able to live in a shared home
- ✓ Living in permanent, stable housing (not homeless)
- ✓ Is free from communicable illness (flu, chicken pox, etc.)
- ✓ Abides by the Guest Agreements and Rules
- ✓ Due to COVID19, families must also be approved exceptions to the NMVA Limited Visitor Policy, be symptom-free, and not had exposure to COVID19.